

**Park and Recreation Commission
June 6, 2022 Redding Community Center
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Kevin Jones (Chair), Pete Graziano, Mitch Edwards, Tami O'Connor, William Rook, MaryLou Carlson, Lorcan O'Connor (7:34)

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jones called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

REVIEW OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Blick reviewed his report:

- Topstone Park opened for the season on Memorial Day weekend. We needed to have our septic serviced over the holiday weekend. We are supposed to have a functioning buzzer system that alerts us when our tank is near capacity. They should be coming out this week to find out why that did not work.
- Even though it rained on the opening Saturday the Scouts were able to do their flag retirement ceremony as scheduled.
- The lifeguards met Friday and came up with this year's lifeguard-run activities and they should be posted soon.
- We were able to secure a swim instructor for this summer at the last minute. There is a national lifeguard shortage this year.
- The Acoustic Series returns to Topstone this summer: June 27 – Mexican Food Night at Topstone. August 20 – Steel Drum Band with Caribbean Food at Topstone (daytime).
- The Pickleball tournament is virtually sold out this weekend. In the event of bad weather, there is a Sunday rain date.
- The Concerts will start Sunday, June 19. We have some new sponsors this year although quite a few contributors have not sent in their donations yet. People can always sign up after it begins but the concert program is at the printer. SpreadMusicNow has underwritten the concert series and is giving us some freedom to sign some bands that were beyond our financial limitations.
- The Fields are doing well although we have not been able to do some of the treatments due to staffing issues. We had a soil test done a few weeks ago and are waiting on the results to see what treatments needs to be done.
- One of the pieces of fastening hardware on the pavilion roof failed. The building department was given an engineering fix and it was approved. The Building Department has closed the pavilion until the corrections are made, which should happen this week.
- Travel Camp is back this summer for two weeks. Sarah Ewud will be returning as Camp Director. She will be joined by Jaime Bairaktaris to lead the staff for these two weeks.

LETTERS OR CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dani Garavito requested that summer programming dates be released in January (currently they are released with the summer brochure in April), so that families can plan their summer activities. Mr. Blick said he could add dates to the website as he gets them.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM April 4, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes: Graziano; T. O'Connor (second), unanimous.

DISCUSSION OF PREVIOUS BUSINESS

Ms. Carlson discussed the planting and landscaping being completed at the RCC playground – with native plants, some of which will bloom in different colors, and some with berries, with more being added in the near future. Angela Caes added that a new item had been installed, with two more items on the way. Access to water near the playground is needed – Mr. Blick said he can put in a work order to hook up a hose which will give volunteers access to water the new plantings.

Mr. Jones briefly reviewed the Pickleball Court proposal at RCC that went before the ARPA committee. It was met with good questions and overall had a positive reception from the committee.

DISCUSSION OF TOPSTONE PARK PLAYGROUND PROPOSAL

Ms. Caes discussed the Topstone Playground and Fitness Area ARPA proposal in great detail. The proposal will go before the ARPA committee in the next few weeks and will be presented by the Redding Youth and Family Project, and supported by the Park and Recreation Commission. Motion to support the proposal O'Connor, L, Graziano (second), unanimous.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS OR INITIATIVES

Mr. Jones asked the commission to begin thinking about the development of rules and guidelines for usage of the new tennis courts. Mr. Blick said he will contact surrounding communities to see what they have done and give us a starting point. Mr. Jones said he will put the creation of these guidelines on the agenda for the next meeting.

SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Jones, Graziano (second), unanimous. Adjourned at 8:35 pm

Submitted: Kevin Jones